

October 23, 1963

Ros Gilpatric : Called to say that this in complete accord with your action. He'd like, with your permission to call a meeting of the Governors down here Thursday for the kind of a briefing which was given to the legislators and to the press.

President: Is he the head of the Governor's now?

Gilpatric: Hes, he is now the Chairman.

President: I see. I see. This is all right, if he is the appropriate fellow to do it. Are you sure that he is the Chairman?

Gilpatric: He told me he was. Now this is civil defense.

President: Oh, I see - now wait a minute. I'll tell you what we should do. Let's find out who the head of the Governors is.

Gilpatric: He has jurisdiction over this, you see.

President: Civil defense?

Gilpatric: I would like to tie him down.

President: Let me just call you back. Let me find out who the head of the Governors is. The only thing I thought, Ros, is that if we are going to have to do anything further than we now doing we really ought to get some civil defense arrangements in those communities that are within the range of these things.

Gilpatric: That's where the Governors would be helpful. We are working on that with Ed McDermott - Pittman is.

President: I would like to get a report on that. I wonder if we could get him to come in - just the two of them - at the 6:00 o'clock meeting to just tell us about that because if we are ever going to carry it out all the way we ought to have those cities evacuated. It is fine with me. Let me just call you back - I want to find out who the head of the Governors is.

Gilpatric: All right.

President: I'll call you back.